

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NEA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SCI-06 FEA-02 INT-08 IO-14 DRC-01 /170 W

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R 231840Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9906

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01228

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, GW, AG, SA

SUBJECT: VISIT OF JAMANI AND ABDESSALAM

1. THE VISIT TO BONN LAST WEEK OF SAUDI PETROLEUM
MINISTER JAMANI AND ALGERIAN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
ABDESSALAM RECEIVED MODERATE PRESS COVERAGE BUT DID
NOT EVOKE THE INTEREST THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED
HAD THEY COME A MONTH EARLIER DURING THE HEIGHT OF
THE SUPPLY CUTBACKS. IN THEIR MEDIA STATEMENTS
WHICH INCLUDED A TV PANEL INTERVIEW, THE ARAB
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MINISTERS EMPHASIZED THE LINK BETWEEN OIL SUPPLY

AND A SATISFACTORY MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. JAMANI NOTED THAT GERMANY HAD NOT BEEN AS POSITIVE IN ITS ATTITUDE AS FRANCE AND THE UK AND HE STATED THAT IF THE FRG SAID THAT ISRAEL MUST PULL BACK TO THE 1967 BORDERS, IT WOULD GET ALL THE OIL IT NEEDS. BOTH MINISTERS DENIED THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR EITHER THE OIL SHORTAGES OR PRICE INCREASES. ISRAEL CAUSED THE FIRST, THEY SAID AND OPEC, NOT THE ARABS, THE SECOND. THE MINISTERS ALSO STRESSED THEIR INTEREST IN TECHNOLOGICAL KNOW-HOW AND IN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WITH OIL CONSUMING COUNTRIES. BOTH PRESENTED AN IMAGE OF REASONABLE MEN SEEKING ONLY PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

2. THE MINISTERS' PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT INCLUDED CHANCELLOR BRANDT, FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL, ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHs AND AID MINISTER EPPLER. ACCORDING TO OUR GOVERNMENT CONTACTS, THE ARABS FOCUSED EXCLUSIVELY ON POLITICAL ISSUES EVEN DURING THEIR TALKS WITH ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHs. BOTH JAMANI AND ABDESSALAM URGED THE FRG TO COME OUT WITH A PUBLIC STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF UN RESOLUTION 242. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, THE FRG RESPONDED THAT IT HAD JOINED IN THE EC NINE DECLARATION AND THAT IT COULD NOT GO BEYOND THAT STATEMENT. THE VISIT ALSO INCLUDED SOME GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION BUT NO SPECIFIC PROJECTS WERE DISCUSSED.

3. COMMENT: WE CAN OF COURSE ONLY SPECULATE ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ARAB MINISTERS' VISIT. NEVERTHELESS, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THEY ACCOMPLISHED MORE IN THEIR PUBLIC RELATIONS EFFORTS THAN IN THEIR TALKS WITH THE GOVERNMENT. WHILE WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THE FRG INTENDS TO MAKE ANY FURTHER PUBLIC DECLARATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, JAMANI AND ABDESSALAM SEEMED TO HAVE SHED A GOOD PORTION OF THEIR QUOTE DEVIL QUOTE IMAGE IN THE PUBLIC'S EYE ALTHOUGH MOST OF THEIR SUCCESS IN THIS REGARD MAY BE DUE TO THEIR RELAXATION OF THE SUPPLY CUTBACKS
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RATHER THAN TO THEIR PUBLIC RELATIONS EFFORTS.
HILLENBRAND

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